

An oscilloscope adapter for a portable electronic device includes a hardware interface connector and a computer program memory. The memory stores computer program instructions that to direct the electronic device to collecting data representative of an signal from an external source and displaying the data as a waveform comprising individual data values as a function of time. The user may select one or more of the scales of the graph. The adapter also may include one or more of a model waveform database, a collected waveform database, an application-specific database, and a language database.